

REMARKS

Applicant notes the allowance of Claim 72.

Claims 36-39 stand rejected as anticipated by, and Claim 38 stands rejected as obvious over, D.E. Patent No. 3743970 to Brachman et al (“Brachman”). Entry of the amendment is respectfully requested. The amendment more clearly distinguishes the claims from the Brachman disclosure.

As amended, Claim 36 recites “. . .the portion of said sheet intermediate each of said pairs of opposing notches forming a respective narrow portion, wherein at least one of said narrow portions includes a grid of apertures.” The Brachman disclosure does not anticipate a configuration as recited in Claim 36.

Furthermore, Claim 36 is directed to “An elongated sheet of light gauge metal from which one or more truss chord members may be formed . . .” However, Brachman discloses a metal reinforcement that is inserted (see Fig 3) into a small U-shaped flexible plug-on profile, as commonly found for example in insulating strips around windows. These metal reinforcements do not anticipate the elements of Claim 36, regardless of the present amendment.

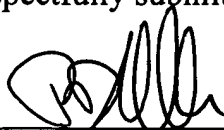
Claims 38 and 39 each depend from independent Claim 36 and are considered novel by virtue of their dependence, notwithstanding the additional patentable limitations contained therein.

Consideration and allowance of new Claims 73 – 80 is solicited. Claims 73 -80 depend directly or indirectly from allowed Claim 72. No new matter has been added.

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections is solicited. Favorable

allowance of the claims is solicited.

Respectfully submitted,



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